

The

Florida Architect



**October
• 1955 •**



Official Journal
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MEMORANDUM 20 MEANS

OCTOBER, 1955

Recipe for A Good Future

It's a good idea for every man to stop, now and then, take stock of what he has and what he's doing and then look ahead to the future that he's headed for. It's even better if he keeps the future he wants to attain in mind — and then periodically adjusts his current activities to be sure he's on the road that will lead him to it.

That procedure is equally good for groups of men — professional organizations like the A.I.A. and state associations like the F.A.A. General recognition that such a self-searching is worthwhile has brought into being the Convention — a chance for a membership to pause collectively, check the progress of plans made, resign the course of action in terms of changing conditions, make new plans for greater accomplishment in the year ahead.

Most Conventions strive toward those objectives. To the extent that full attainment is realized a Convention marks a definite period of progress for its organization. Even if formal actions sometimes fall short of hoped-for realization, the Convention has not been held in vain. The collective pause, the exchange of ideas and opinions — yes, even the frolic part of an annual meeting period — have inevitably clarified points of issue and have formed a stable basis for action in the future.

Thinking back, that has certainly been true of recent Conventions of both the Institute and the F.A.A. Much of the present virile surge evident in both organizations can be attributed first to the general recognition that Convention action was desirable, and second to the action itself that made possible attainment of new goals.

But, like the tear that psychologists say lurks behind every smile, Conventions carry the seeds of danger while reaping the good of their accomplishments. *That danger is complacency.* It is the feeling on the part of member chapters or individual chapter members that this once-a-year pause-and-action is all that's needed to assure progress and bring success to all plans made.

Of course, nothing could be further from the truth. Complacency on the part of any organization's rank and file membership spells the quick decline of the organization itself. It happened to the Roman Empire. It could happen anywhere.

How to avoid it here? Individual by individual. Let each F.A.A. member pay his dues, attend all meetings, voice his ideas and opinions, get mad, insist on action — everyone!

The F.A.A. promises a tremendous future on your behalf. But only YOU, yourself, can assure realization of its potentials.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Florida Association of Architects shall be to unite the architectural profession within the State of Florida to promote and forward the objectives of The American Institute of Architects; to stimulate and encourage continual improvement within the profession; to cooperate with the other professions; to promote and participate in the matters of general public welfare, and represent and act for the architectural profession in the State; and to promote educational and public relations programs for the advancement of the profession.

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LEAP (FRANCHISED) CASTING YARDS

THE FLORIDA ARCHITECT

This picture of the Florida State Board of Architecture was taken at the time of the Board's last meeting in Jacksonville. Back row, left to right, Russell T. Pannocost, F.A.I.A., Archie G. Parish, S. Ralph Fennee, Richard H. Rogers. Front row: Mellen C. Greeley, F.A.I.A., retiring Board Secretary, Mrs. Frances E. Eyles, assistant, Morton T. Ironmonger, new Board appointee and its recently elected Secretary-Treasurer.



New Set-Up For The State Board

Office moves to Ft. Lauderdale with Morton T. Ironmonger succeeding Mellen C. Greeley, F.A.I.A., as Secretary-Treasurer

As of October 1st, the Florida State Board of Architecture will have a new official headquarters at 1261 E. Las Olas Boulevard, Ft. Lauderdale. And when its equipment and files are moved from the old headquarters at 218 W. Church Street, Jacksonville, Mellen C. Greeley, F.A.I.A., who has served as the Secretary of the State Board continuously for the past 32 years, will turn over the Board's affairs to Morton T. Ironmonger who was elected as the new Secretary-Treasurer at a special meeting in Jacksonville on August 13.

The move came as no surprise to those acquainted with State Board affairs and with the hopes and wishes of the man who served it with skill, diligence and distinction for more than three decades. When Mellen Clark Greeley was appointed a Board member in 1923 and elected its Secretary-Treasurer at the same time, he had already been practicing architecture in Jacksonville—the city of his birth—for 14 years. For the past several years he has wished to resign from a routine of duties that

has grown increasingly heavy with each succeeding year.

His term of appointment expired July 1st, this year. In line with his wishes, efforts were made to find an able replacement to his office; and on August 10, Governor Lemoy Collins commissioned Morton T. Ironmonger in his stead, thus making it possible for him to relinquish his official duties on the Board as soon as all practical formalities of a transfer could be made.

So now, Mellen Greeley—"Mel" to thousands of friends and colleagues throughout the country—can close his downtown Jacksonville office if he wishes. He plans to do just that—and plans further to build a small library or "loving place" at his country residence, "Rivermarshes." There, he says, he hopes "to do such small professional jobs and carry on such civic activities as appear to be desirable or required."

"If that is retirement," he adds, "Then I guess I'm retiring! But I think of it as an opportunity for working at my two hobbies of grow-

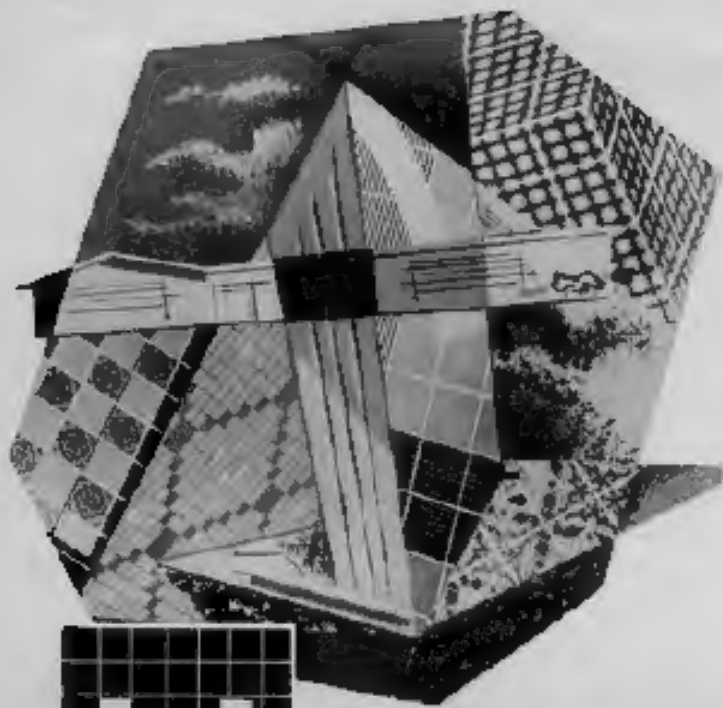
ing plants and working for the architectural profession."

His successor has been a practicing architect in Ft. Lauderdale since 1940, a permanent resident of that city since 1937, an intermittent one since 1924. Like the former Board Secretary, Morton T. Ironmonger was born in Jacksonville. He was educated at Cornell University. He has been Secretary-Treasurer of the Broward County Chapter for the past several years and Assistant Treasurer of the F.A.A. for the past year.

To conduct the heavy routine schedule of State Board affairs at the new Ft. Lauderdale office, the new Secretary-Treasurer will have an able assistant in Mrs. Frances E. Eyles who has been serving in that capacity in the Board's former Jacksonville office for the past 11 years. Mrs. Eyles will move to Ft. Lauderdale and continue her work at the new Las Olas Boulevard address.

The retiring Secretary was not the only State Board member whose 4-year term expired July 1. Both

(Continued on Page 4)



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After 46 years of independent practice and 32 years of State Board service, Mel Gredey will indulge his hobbies—golfing, the profession of architecture!

(Continued from Page 3)

RUSSELL T. PARCOUSE, Miami Beach, and AUGUST C. PANISH, St. Petersburg, had completed the periods to which they had been appointed. But early in August Governor Collins reappointed both men for an additional 4-year term. As a result of these actions, a continuity of the same type of policy and action that has characterized Board activities in the recent past is assured to both the public and the architectural profession of Florida.

Both public and profession need it. And to MELLEN CLARK GREDEY, F.A.A., both owe a full measure of thanks for his 32 years of wise counsel and unceasing effort in helping develop the high standards of professional conduct and competence that the Florida State Board of Architecture now represents, demands and guards.



Morton E. Ironmonger, new State Board Secretary-Treasurer, will establish a new Board office in Ft. Lauderdale.

THE FLORIDA ARCHITECT

A. I. A. To Integrate State Groups

Development of the Chapter as the basic organizational unit of the A.I.A. has always been one of the main concerns of the Institute. Rapid strides toward better Chapter operation have already been taken by issuance of Volumes 1 and 2 of the Institute's Chapter Manual. Recent "streamlining" of committee organization on the national level—and the urging of A.I.A. headquarters that Chapters follow suit—is having the happy effect of simplifying Chapter organization also.

One result of all this can be an improvement in overall Institute activities and better "internal public relations." The importance of the region as an organizational unit acting as an operational liaison between individual chapters and national headquarters is already becoming clear. But in all planning for better working relationship the Institute has done, one glaring omission became evident at the Chapter Affairs Seminar during the A.I.A. Convention at Minneapolis.

That was the vital role which State Associations are playing in the overall A.I.A. set-up. Not until F.A.A. President CUSTON GAMBLE brought this subject forcibly to the notice of A.I.A. officials had the Institute apparently considered the fact that state organizations are currently outside the A.I.A. chain of organization. Thus, the Institute had ignored the extremely important function that strong state associations are now exercising in their respective localities.

Prior to "unification" of the A.I.A., state associations of architects had been of first importance as presenting "regional fronts" relative to establishment and maintenance of professional standards. New Jersey had an especially strong one. So did Michigan and New York, Texas and California. In our own state the F.A.A. had been operative for many years. But not until now has the real and practical significance of these associations been highlighted.

Many of the state associations still exist. But since membership in them has, in the vast majority of cases,

become synonymous with local membership in the A.I.A., many have ceased to operate as the vital, active guardians of professional standards and the proponents of individual professional activities that they once were. Not all, however. And among those whose activity and importance is expanding, rather than diminishing, is the F.A.A.

Actually, the F.A.A. holds a special position among state associations. Like Texas, Florida is a region largely by virtue of geography, especially so because our state has long been recognized as "different," physically, economically, socially. But unlike Texas, Florida is not yet large enough to operate as a full-fledged region in the A.I.A. organization set-up.

As an association of A.I.A. chapters, however, the F.A.A. must necessarily—and does—operate in a regional sense. Like other state associations, the F.A.A. has within it seeds of accomplishment that up to now have been difficult to recognize—and perhaps even impossible to realize. As representing every A.I.A. chapter in the State, the F.A.A. is in a position to speak for the architectural profession on a statewide basis more effectively than any individual chapter can speak for itself. It can guard and promote the interests of the profession from the same viewpoint with equal effectiveness. And ultimately it can become an adequately staffed regional center with facilities for servicing its member chapters and helping each promote local efforts along lines of common interests.

Only three things are really necessary to develop the full potentials of functions the F.A.A. is in a particularly good position to exercise. One is recognition of these potentials in fact by the Institute so the F.A.A. may operate as a formal, integrated unit of the A.I.A. organization. Another is the continuing support of A.I.A. chapters in the state—and an increasing recognition by chapter memberships that in the strength of their state association lies expanding opportunity in professional activity and acceptance.

The third necessity for bringing

Full recognition by the A.I.A. Chapter Affairs Committee will widen scope of F.A.A. activities, make possible more and better services for member Chapters.



John L. B. Grand, regional member, A.I.A. Chapter Affairs Committee, supported demand that F.A.A. be made formal part of A.I.A. setup.

forth full potentials of the F.A.A. is development of an operating headquarters, staffed to carry on the affairs—both internal and external—with which the F.A.A. will be increasingly concerned.

Action on the first point has already been initiated by Clinton Gamble, and the A.I.A. Chapter Affairs staff has promised quick and definite action. The second and third points are up to F.A.A. membership. The potentials exist. But both interest and economics are involved. Through interest of individual A.I.A. members and affiliates throughout the state, the economic support of each F.A.A. Chapter can easily become a reality. Then—but not until then—the F.A.A. can begin to do a full-scope job for Florida's architectural profession, locally, state-wide, regionally and nationally.

F. A. A. Operating Committees — 1934 - 1935

F.A.A. President Clinton Gamble has asked that all Committee Reports be forwarded to him in duplicate by or before, October 15 so necessary presentation before the November Convention can be scheduled. Members who have a special interest in the work of any particular committee are therefore urged to get in touch with committee chairman at once in the interests of complete and fully representative reports.



Clinton Gamble, President, F.A.A.

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tral), Raymond H. Flockelman (Palm Beach), James Pownall (Broward), James Gamble Rogers II (Central), William Stewart (Palm Beach), William Zimmerman (Central).

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PUBLICATION — Edwin T. Reeder (So.), Chairman. Igor B. Polevitzky (So.), G. Clinton Gamble (Broward).

PUBLIC INFORMATION — Andrew J. Ferencik (So.), Chairman. Members are Public Relations Committee Chairmen of each F.A.A. Chapter.

REDISTRICTING — William T. Arnett (No.), Chairman. Laurence W. Hitt (Central), Willis L. Stephens (No.), John Stetson (Palm Beach), George J. Votaw (Palm Beach).

RELATIONS WITH CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY — Igor B. Polevitzky (So.), Chairman. George J. Votaw (Palm Beach), Miss Marion I. Manley (So.).

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The History of An Idea

The Idea is Better Understanding between the Architect and the Electrical Contractor. It's growing greater and stronger with every job.

By HOWARD L. PALMER

First V-P, Florida Association of Electrical Contractors

It has often been said that the "complete architect" has to be everything from a first-class laborer to a full-fledged psychiatrist—at least a psychologist. To use the architect's own words when selling his professional services: "Architectural working drawings and specifications should show every structural and mechanical component of the building as well as all materials employed and the method of their installation. To the mechanical trades they should show clearly every pipe, conduit, wire and piece of equipment."

So, one of the pains of shoes the architect is supposed to fill in his ever-broadening field is that of an electrical engineer. This particular pair of shoes is a pretty big one to fill—along with all the other trades, crafts and professions involved in architectural practice. It's getting bigger every year. The electrical industry in Florida found that more and more plans and specifications issued from architect's offices were far from complete—sometimes hardly intelligible from the contractor's viewpoint.

So, two years ago, the Florida Electrical Contractors Association initiated an effort to improve the end of the Architect's business that concerned them the most—electrical plans and specs. Through the Central Florida Chapter of the Association (and with some feeling of guilt that existing conditions were as much the fault of Electrical Contractors as they were of Architects involved) a joint meeting was arranged at Orlando in January, 1954, with the Or-

ange County Architects Association and the Electrical Contractors Association of Central Florida. Also invited to attend this exploratory meeting were leading architects of Lake, Seminole, and Osceola Counties and Electrical Inspectors of the municipalities in the four county area represented. Key personnel of the various architects' offices were also invited to attend.

All in all some 80 people assembled at the Eola Plaza in Orlando to discuss one theme: "What can Electrical Contractors and Architects do together, or in their separate associations, to solve their mutual problems and improve their common industry?"

To save time, tempers, and personalities, the discussion was pro-



HOWARD L. PALMER, sparkplug of F.A.E.C. efforts to work with architects in solving a variety of mutual problems.



AXEL ORNBERG, President, F.A.E.C., is a strong believer in inter-association programs based on active cooperation.

ceeded from a moderator-led panel composed of three Architects and three Electrical Contractors who took turns in trying to answer questions from the floor in their respective fields. The Electrical Contractors, who played hosts at the meeting, acknowledged they had practically no experience at conducting such meetings and were genuinely sincere in their desire to see some "real good develop from this meeting." The Architects, through their Association, indicated that they, too, hoped some sound accomplishment would result so that similar activity could be carried on around the state—for as one Architect so aptly put it, "the fostering of differences isn't local; it's a state-wide cure."

(Continued on Page 18)



JAMES DANDELAKE, Chairman of F.A.E.C. Convention being held in Jacksonville from September 30 through October 2.

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Chapter News & Notes

Information from all F.A.A. Chapters is welcomed. Deadline for Nov. issue is Oct. 19.

Florida North

The Secretary, Jim Meehan, of Jacksonville, has scheduled the following events for coming meetings of the Chapter. In October the meeting will be an election of officers affair to be held in Jacksonville, October 11. Feature of the evening will be a film "Aluminum on the Skyline," a story of the Alcoa Building.

The Pre-Convention meeting, to be held November 13 in Jacksonville, will include presentation of the A.I.A.'s most recent PR film, "Architecture, U.S.A." Last meeting of the year, slated for December 13 at Gainesville, will feature a talk by ROBERT PRADOCK, P.E., on the increasingly important subject of Prestressed Concrete.

The Chapter's Committee on Recommended Fee Schedules has been active in studying the question of what fees should be charged Professional Engineers by Architects who work with an engineer to develop projects for which the engineer has been designated the prime professional. The Committee has prepared a report containing a number of specific recommendations. It is a tentative one, however, not yet ready for final approval or publication. The draft is now under study by the Chapter's Executive Committee and individual members. After all comments have been reviewed, a final draft will be prepared for submission to the F.A.A. Committee on Architect-Engineer Relations. If approved by that body, recommendations will presumably be presented before the Daytona Beach Convention for general F.A.A. approval.

New Chapter Forming

The Fall meeting of the Florida Central Chapter, scheduled for October 19, at the Orange Court Hotel, Orlando, may be the last meeting of that Chapter as it now exists. Arrangements are now virtually complete for the formation of the new Mid-Florida Chapter; and formal organization of the new group is anticipated by the end of this month.

Though under discussion for almost two years, action toward forming a new chapter was started some six



John Stinson, photo-tapping president of the Palm Beach Chapter, was one of seven A.I.A.s who attended the 9th Pan American Congress of Architects in Caracas last month.

months ago by a group of Orange County architects headed by Joseph Shifalo of Winter Park. Area covered by the Chapter would include counties of Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola and Seminole; and a questionnaire survey revealed that a nucleus of 26 A.I.A. corporate and eight associate members approved plans for the new Chapter.

With such a start, Mid-Florida architects predict a rapid growth to about 100 members within a year's time—thus almost rivaling the current membership of 108 of the Florida Central Chapter. With junior and student associates, the new chapter should begin to function with a roster of nearly 60, according to Joseph Shifalo.

He estimates that the area contains more than 100 potential additional members. These are practicing architects and their associates who have thus far formed no professional affiliation, but who recognize the value of it. As an active local group the Mid-Florida Chapter would be attractive to them.

Formation of the new A.I.A. unit is in line with developments anticipated by the Re-Districting Committee in plans and recommendations presented to and approved by last year's F.A.A. Convention. In addition to forming a new chapter of professional activity in the busy mid-land area of the state, it will permit

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closer cooperation between architects in the remaining area of the Florida Central Chapter. Thus it should work to the advantage of all concerned and produce the net result of strengthening both the cause and the effect of organized activity on behalf of the architectural profession throughout the state.

Florida South

In line with overall A.I.A. policy, the Florida South Chapter is now in conclave; and at the September 11th meeting members voted changes in the by-laws necessary to reflect the change in status of the organization to a non-profit corporation.

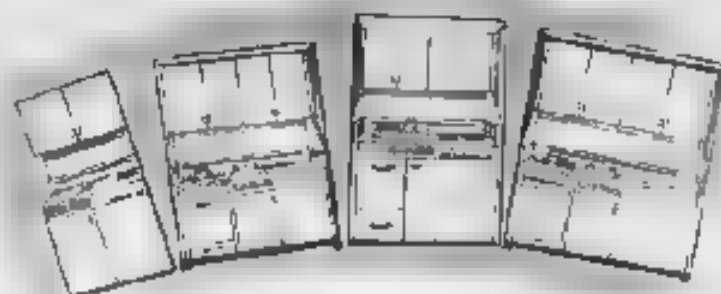
That meeting was held at the Dixie Bell Inn at Kendaall and was attended by about 80 thirsty and hungry individuals—including members of the Miami Draftsman Club. The Chapter and its guests enjoyed cocktails before dinner through the courtesy of Joe Polito, architect, whose president Pat Winkler and three associates were present and later discussed the manufacture and application of Perlate as shown in a full-color movie.

The meeting program included the appointment of a nominating committee to which ARDY FERRENDINO was named as chairman. It also included a pointed discussion of A.I.A. membership and particularly for the benefit of the Chapter and what conditions were entailed and what procedure was necessary for attaining membership status.

Finally, a new member was "initiated" to the Chapter. He is THOMAS GERRARD, of Miami, and he now enjoys the distinction of being the first member of the Florida South Chapter to be initiated with any sort of ceremony. President KAUFMAN administered to him the A.I.A.'s Oath—written, incidentally, by the A.I.A.'s new President GEORGE HARRIS JAMES—before presenting his membership certificate and welcoming him to Chapter membership.

A new professional publication "Presenting Your Architect" is now nearing completion as an activity of the Florida South Chapter. President KAUFMAN heads a committee including THOMAS RUSSELL and EDWARD COLEMAN that has prepared the document as a single sheet, folded four times to a size for use in a standard business envelope. It will be available for dis-

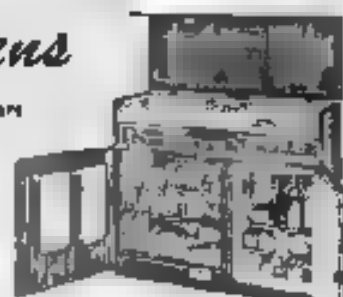
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News & Notes

Continued from Page 8

production shortly. Though developed primarily for South Florida Chapters use it may be made available for general F.A.A. distribution if the Board of Directors approve and demands from other Chapters make large-scale production feasible.

Office Changes

In Palm Beach, **RAYMOND H. PROCKENIAN** announces the formation of a partnership with **JEROME N. POWERS**. The partnership will operate under the name of **POCKENIAN & POWERS, Architects**, 701 South County Road, Palm Beach.

In Orlando, **ROBERT B. MURPHY**, Architect, has moved his office from its old location at the Church & Main Building to 139 Edgewater Drive, Orlando.

In Ft. Lauderdale, **MONTGOMERY T. THOMPSON**, Architect, has moved from his old office at 1229 E. Las Olas Blvd. to larger quarters at 126 E. Las Olas Blvd., Ft. Lauderdale. The move was made to accommodate equipment and files of the State Board of Architecture and the new address will become the headquarters of the State Board as of October 1st, 1955.

Revisions Suggested for Proposed New Constitution and By-Laws

Since publication of the proposed revision of the Constitution and By-Laws of the F.A.A. (in the September issue of *The Florida Architect*) the Committee has received several valuable suggestions from members who have studied the document. The merits of these suggestions have been considered by the Committee and have resulted in the following changes to the Constitution and By-Laws published previously.

ARTICLE IV: Add the following as a new Section 2; and renumber the following Sections 3, 4, 5 and 6.

SECTION 2—Corporate and Associate members of the Chapters in North Florida shall constitute the North Florida Section of the Association, those in Central Florida shall constitute the Central Florida Section, and those in South Florida shall constitute the South Florida Section.

THE FLORIDA ARCHITECT

News & Notes

(Continued from Page 10)

Student members of the Student Chapters shall constitute the Student Section of the Association.

ARTICLE IV—New Section 6 (old section 5)—omit "good standing."

ARTICLE V—Section 5, paragraph B—Change first sentence to read: the Treasurer shall make a written report to each annual meeting of the Association and a written report at each meeting of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI—Section 3—Change to read: Vacancy of a Director on the Board shall be filled by the Chapter so affected and all other vacancies shall be filled by action of the Board.

ARTICLE VI—Section 4, paragraph A—Change "two" to "four" in the last sentence.

Forgoing revisions represent the final total of the Committee's deliberations after reviewing all criticism and suggestions received to date. September 19, 1955. If other changes are proposed they will have to be made and acted upon at the Convention in November.

— EPPERSON N. POWELL
Chairman,
F.A.A. By-Laws Committee

Interesting if True!

Heights to which the imaginative mind of candidates for registration may reach never ceases to be a source of wonderment. As recent examples, the following interesting facts were gleaned from last June's examination papers by the Examining Committee of the State Board of Architecture.

Q—What is the difference between direct and alternating current?

A—Direct current comes direct from the original source. Alternating current is current which is picked up along the way.

Q—What is relative humidity?

A—Relative humidity is the amount of moisture in the air relative to the amount that is usually there.

Q—What is vapor seal?

A—Vapor seal is when water in a trap causes the vapor to become sealed in. Sealed-in vapor can become very obnoxious.

Q—What is a sarcophagus?

A—A sarcophagus is a small flesh-eating animal.

OCTOBER 1955

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41st Annual F.A.A. Convention

Place: Daytona Beach

Date: November 17, 18, 19

Plans for the 41st Annual F.A.A. Convention are rapidly shaping up to promise one of the most active—and least expensive—gatherings in F.A.A. history. Registration is already begun to arrive, and Registration Secretary JOHN W. SAYERS Jr. urges that room reservations be made at once to prevent possible disappointment.

WILLIAM R. GOSPEL, chairman of the Building Product and Student Exhibits, both of which will be major features of the Convention, writes:

"Efforts of our Daytona Beach Chapter committee will provide a full period of activity to Convention members at practically no cost. For \$37.50, including registration, an architect may have two days of interest and fun, including all meals, room, entertainment and refreshments—as well as the chance to take home one or more of the many fine prizes that will be available."

A full list of "prizes," many of which have been generously donated by product exhibitors, was not available at this writing. But the list is headed by such luxury appliances as a full-color television set and a seven standard television, six radios and

three office-type fans. Plans for their distribution are now being perfected.

Entertainment plans are also well along toward completion, though not subject to detailed publication at present, that the Committee says. "Entertainment is expected to be professional and of a quality to make it worth while by itself." The Women's Committee, headed by RAYMOND SELLERS, is planning a "hang-up affair" for

The Product Exhibit may finally become the largest in F.A.A. Convention history. At 50 spaces in the main exhibit area have been taken; and additional space has been arranged in adjoining rooms at the urgent request of firms wishing to exhibit.

In the business side of the Convention, there is the important matter of adopting a new F.A.A. Constitution and By-laws to support the decision on Re-districting made at last year's Convention. And with the Convention theme pointed at Planning for Education, there should be plenty of self-practical value to be gained from technical discussions headed by theme speaker FORREST KALLAY Jr., architect for the State Bureau of Planning and at Tallahassee.

THE FLORIDA ARCHITECT

History of An Idea

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And what about the results of that meeting? They were amazing. At the Electrical Contractors included, exposed any overnight cure for the many problems confronting the group. But all were surprised at how much "down to earth" progress was made that night.

What has happened to solidify and further the progress made during last historical meeting in January 1954? A great deal! Many programs and projects now under way in both groups, on both local and state-wide basis, got their start at that initial gathering. Some of the problems aired at the meeting have already been satisfactorily solved; others are now the concern of committees of both groups working throughout the State. Some of the questions raised have yet to be answered.

The important thing is that they were raised. Here are some typical ones voiced at the meeting as a basis for improving the overall situation; they outline:

ARCHTS.—Many Architects are pressed at the last minute, before bid date and have to issue addenda to electrical plans and specifications even though plans may have been out for months for many weeks. Is there any way that Electrical Contractors can call Architects attention to questions in plans and specs earlier in the bidding period?

F.A.E.C.—Why is it that Architects sometimes specify fixtures, panels, devices, etc. that are obsolete or even out of manufacture?

ARCHTS.—Why do Electrical Contractors make such a fuss when lighting fixtures are set up as an allowance to be installed by the successful electrical contractor under his base bid?

F.A.E.C.—Some of us Electrical Contractors feel it isn't fair to have to put up \$40.00 or \$50.00 deposits on plans and specifications and get only \$10.00 or \$15.00 back after we have signed them. It seems that we are paying a sizeable figure for the questionable privilege of figuring a job we may never get. Is there any

(Continued on Page 4)

OCTOBER 1955



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Contractor: E. C. Kenyon, Jacksonville

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History of An Idea

(Continued from Page 18)

thing Architects can do about this without hurting their own pocket-books?

ARCNTS.—Some Architects feel that there is too much careless work by some contractors men on the finishing of buildings. Even though we specify good fixtures and electrical devices, plates and covers, we still find many places not level and panel boxes not smooth, with plaster and fixtures out of line. What can Electrical Contractors do to improve this situation?

F.A.E.C.—Architects many times specify such pieces of equipment as water heaters, exhaust fans, ventilating fans, etc., in other sub contractor's part of the specifications. Why do they do this when it's under the electrical contractor's job to connect and to service this equipment?

ARCNTS.—Many architects do specify such of vacuum sucs as well as electric and industrial buildings. We don't feel an electrical engineer is always required to lay out a fairly simple house. But we find great variations in service sucs, panels and load centers and allied equipment in our houses. What can we do to make sure that the owners have enough circuits and heavy enough wire sizes and room for future expansion without spending excessively for the electrical contract on their houses?

F.A.E.C.—What can Electrical Contractors do to see to it that what Architects intend when they draw up plans and specs actually happens the way they intend it in the finished building?

ARCNTS.—Electrical contractors insist that the National Electrical Code is only a set of minimum standards and is not a set of "adequate" standards. Why—and why isn't it safe for an architect's reputation to not say in his spec "We're according to the National Electrical Code standards as approved by the Board of Fire Underwriters"?

F.A.E.C.—More and more reputable architects are writing into their bidding procedure on all public and commercial work that major sub contractors names be listed by each building general contractor to qualify him

for bidding. Why are some architects still dragging their feet on this worthwhile improvement to the bidding practices in the industry?

ARCNTS.—How can an Architect who is letting work in an unfamiliar area in the state make sure of getting a thoroughly qualified electrical sub contractor on his job? Also, what is this we hear about Electrical Contractors Associations setting up "Security Funds" to make sure each member lives up to the F.A.E.C. standards and codes of ethics?

Most of the above questions were proposed at the first of these joint meetings at Orlando, although some of them and many more were brought up in open discussions at other similar meetings held in various cities around the state. Still more meetings are being planned and the hope is that most of the electrical contractors and architects throughout the state will have been brought together for equally as frank discussions by early 1956. Because much solid work has been accomplished by both Electrical Contractors and Architects in their separate associations—and together in the areas covered—a series of annual Progress Report Meetings is now being planned in a few areas by the two groups.

Here's a partial record of accomplishments by these two groups working together for a common goal in just a little over a year:

1—Better plans and specs from architects offices. (It's a little tougher on some electrical contractors but they are still for it—it's fair to all and the architects are getting much better jobs with less headaches!)

2—More and better public getting on the use of an architect on all types of buildings. (There are about 12 people in the electrical industry for each architect—12 good witnesses if they know the benefits of an owner going to a good architect before planning his building!)

3—Quicker screening of plans and specs after they are issued for bidding by architects. (Electrical contractors are getting along without attention to possible clarifications earlier in the bidding period.)

4—A "Guide to the Planning of Residential Electrical Systems" is

(Continued on Page 18)

Standard Prestressed Concrete members were used in the construction of scores of modern structures like these:

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History of An Idea

(Continued from Page 14)

now available. (Prepared by the F.A.E.C. for distribution to architects and draftsmen. A post card to the State Manager, Florida Association of Electrical Contractors, Stovel Professional Building, Tampa, Florida, will get you as many copies as you need for your office—at no charge.)

5—A "Check List" for Electrical Plans and Specs for Commercial and Industrial Installations" is also on hand. (Prepared by the F.A.E.C.—just a post card again.)

6—Higher standards of performance by members of the F.A.E.C. (Members appreciated being told their shortcomings by interested architects—they get so close to the forest they can't see the trees in their business tool)

7—Promotion of more adequacy in wiring and the use of more modern devices, methods and equipment. (Still a long way to go on this one!)

8—Better bidding practices. (Still no Utopia—but better all the time.)

9—Wiser use of electrical engineering talent by Architects. (Gives him more time to do his basic job better!)

10—Better plan and spec availability for subs. (Better plan rooms, more sets sent to builders exchanges, more outright sales of electrical sheets to electrical contractors—they only need the full sets for a relatively short time.)

11—More complete fixture lists appearing on plans and specifications. (Gives the architect better control of future lighting and the "night-time beauty" of his building.)

12—More help for the Architect through "Adequate Wiring Bureaus" being set up around the state under the co-sponsorship of the F.A.E.C.

13—A gauge for Architects on "out-of-town" work. (A roster of all F.A.E.C. members is available for any area—a letter to the State Manager at Tampa on your letterhead is all that is needed.)

Although both Electrical Contractors and Architects still feel they have a long way to go together, progress made in the relatively short period of less than two years does show what cooperation between building industry associations can do for the common good of all concerned.

Producers' Council Program



... But the other side didn't even get warm! Interested guests at the Producers Council "Tarade of Plywood" show, examine results of tests on a new insulated door demonstrated by the U. S. Plywood Corporation.

On Tuesday evening, August 23, the Coral Gables Country Club was again the scene of a Producers' Council "Informational Meeting" held by the Miami Chapter. As usual, it was a chance for local architects to partake of good food and drink and to deepen their acquaintance with local building product distributors who make up the membership of this national organization.

As an evening of good fun laced with the acquisition of useful facts on the specification and use of quality materials, these Informational Meetings have become famous among architects of Greater Miami. This August one, sponsored by the United States Plywood Corporation, seemed of special interest. The Country Club was actually crowded—and it wasn't just because of the bar and the buffet board either. The sponsor had set up an excellent display of plywood panels around the big dining area. Before and after dinner architects displayed plenty of interest in them. And the highlight was a demonstration of fire-proof qualities of a new type of insulated door to provide a high rating

with the good looks inherent in a wide range of fine wood surfacing.

The demonstration was eye-catching to say the least. One of the doors was placed, table-wise, on two saw horses. Below it a jumbo-sized plumber's torch was placed to direct a constant flame to the middle of the under surface. And on the door itself reclined a gorgeous blonde, aptly clad in a cool bathing costume. Only the door shielded her from the open flame. But for most of an hour she was as comfortably relaxed as one could be on top of a door. And plenty of visitors who got near enough to test, learned at first hand that the surface on which she was reclining was quite as cool as her nonchalance suggested.

In addition, the hosts did a fine job of presenting plywood. Of particular interest was a new type of pre-fabricated interior partition that evidently has wide use possibilities.

The Miami Chapter's next Informational Meeting took place September 27, when the Florida Power and Light Company dealt with "Modern Light Conditioning."

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